

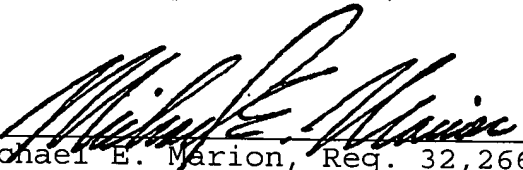
a² implement a method according to claim 1.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments to claims 3 and 17 were made solely to avoid filing the claims in the multiple dependent form so as to avoid the additional filing fee.

The claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights he may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicant furthermore reserves his right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

3. A method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the method further comprises (h) applying corrections to each respective block of data in accordance with the results of the correction calculations performed in steps (e) and (g).

17. A decoder comprising input means for receiving at least one continuous data stream, the data stream incorporating an error protection code applied on the basis of a predetermined size of data block, wherein the decoder is arranged to implement a method according to claim 1~~any of claims 1 to 14~~.